NORTH YORKSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM

17 August 2006

A1 (M) Dishforth to Barton Update

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 To brief members on current position regarding the proposal to upgrade the current A1 to Motorway between Dishforth and Barton.

2.0 Background

- 1.1 At the last meeting of the Local Access Forum, members agreed to form a sub group to discuss the Draft Side Roads order. A letter was sent to the Highways Agency (See Appendix 1)
- 1.2 The Highways Agency has since written to all those who commented on the Draft Orders, outlining the next steps.

3.0 Proposals

- 3.1 The Secretary of State for Transport has decided to hold a Public Local Inquiry to consider objections to the draft orders. The Public Inquiry will be preceded by a Pre-Inquiry to be held at The Scotch Corner Hotel starting at 10.00am on the 5th September 2006. The Public Inquiry will start on the 17th October at 10.00am. Both will be presided over by Mr C J Tipping (MA CANTAB), an independent inspector appointed by the Lord Chancellor to conduct the Inquiry.
- 3.2 The purpose of the Inquiry is to inform the Secretary of State of the weight and nature of objections to the proposals contained in the Orders.
- 3.3 The Highways (Inquiries Procedure) Rules 1994 give certain classes of objectors broadly statutory bodies and individuals who are closely affected by the proposals a right to appear at the Inquiry.
- 3.4 The Booklet 'Public Inquiries into Road Proposals will be distributed at the meeting.

4.0 <u>Consideration by the Local Access Forum</u>

- 4.1 The Highways Agency has issued its outline statement of case, which at the time of writing had not been received by the Rights of Way and Access Manager, it is hoped a copy will be available at the meeting.
- 3.2 The Local Access Forum receives regular updates and has been heavily involved in directing the work of the Rights of Way Improvement Plan.
- 3.3 Those objecting to the proposals will need to submit their Outline Statement of Case no later than the 18th August 2006 or their Full Statement of Case by 25th August 2006 for their comments to be taken

- into consideration at the Pre-Inquiry meeting on the 5th September 2006.
- 3.4 Alternatively a full statement of Case must be submitted to the Agency by the 23rd September 2006, to allow time for the Inspector to consider the case prior to the Public Inquiry.
- 5.0 Recommendation
- 5.1 It is recommended that the Local Access Forum considers:
 - (a) whether its initial comments are sufficient;
 - (b) whether it wishes to submit a more detailed Statement to the Agency; and
 - (c) if any members of the Local Access Forum should attend the Public Inquiry to present evidence.

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